Please find below, Utah State Parks news for March 1:

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE March 1, 2011

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- Ride On! Video Contest Underway
- Upcoming Utah State Parks Weekend Events
- Utah State Parks Upcoming Events

RIDE ON! VIDEO CONTEST UNDERWAY

Salt Lake City – In an effort to educate and promote responsible off-highway vehicle (OHV) riding, Utah State Parks and Recreation, Utah School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration (SITLA), and the Larry H. Miller Group co-sponsor the RIDE ON! video contest.

Students are encouraged to submit videos incorporating principles of safe and responsible OHV riding, and stewardship of School and Institutional Trust Lands. Winning videos will be used by SITLA and Utah State Parks to communicate the importance of protecting and respecting SITLA lands, and share safe OHV riding messages.

"Educating youth about responsible riding is important," commented Utah State Parks Off-Highway Vehicle Coordinator Chris Haller. "This contest allows kids to be creative and have fun while learning how to be safe and protect riding privileges for future generations."

Students can earn cash and prizes for themselves, their schools and teachers. No taxpayer money is used for prizes. To enter a video and for more information, visit stateparks.utah.gov/rideonvideocontest. Entries are accepted now through Friday, May 13.

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UTAH STATE PARKS WEEKEND EVENTS

March 4-5 Snow Canyon State Park - Ivins Learn to Use GPS: Do you want to geocache, but don't know how to use a global positioning system (GPS)? Join Michael Thomas from Washington County Search and Rescue to learn how to use GPS, its history, and its unique language. Enjoy an evening slide presentation Friday, March 4 from 7 to 8 p.m. followed by a hands-on activity March 5 at 9 a.m. 435-628-2255 March 5 Rock Cliff Nature Center/Jordanelle State Park - Francis Deer Family: Join the park naturalist from 10 a.m. to noon to learn about the deer, moose and elk and how they survive winter. Bring snowshoes or borrow a pair from the park. Pre-registration is required. 435-782-3030

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UTAH STATE PARKS UPCOMING EVENTS

March 17 Edge of the Cedars State Park Museum - Blanding The Cliff Dwellings Speak: Join authors Beth and Bill Sagstetter at 6:30 p.m. for an evening presentation on their new book *The Cliff Dwellings Speak*. Event is free and open to the public. 435-678-2238

March 17 Utah Field House of Natural History State Park Museum - Vernal Lecture: Join Ashley National Forest Archeologist Jeff Rust at 7 p.m. for a discussion on archeology in the Uinta Basin. 435-789-3799

March 19 Antelope Island State Park - Syracuse Unicorn Point History Hike: Join the park curator at 10 a.m. for a nine-mile hike on the South Island Trail and learn about the trail's history. Meet at Fielding Garr Ranch and bring water, snacks, wear sturdy shoes, and dress for the weather. 801-649-5742

March 19 Wasatch Mountain State Park - Midway Spring Birding: Join the park naturalist from 9 to 11 a.m. for a leisurely bird walk in the park as we conduct a bird survey. Beginners are welcome and encouraged to attend. Meet at the visitor center, bring binoculars if you have them, and dress for the weather. 435-654-1791

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